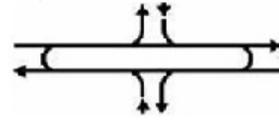
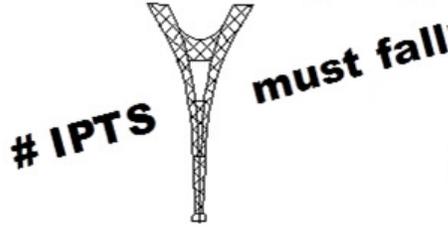

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IPTS must fall

2017-03-07

If they built the Eiffel Tower upside down everyone will see it can fall over, but when they build an IPTS upside down, that is not so easy to see. In NMB, ten years later, Planners still can't see which side is up

Truth is, if there wasn't a 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup, there wouldn't be an upside down IPTS. And the future of the taxi industry would not be under threat

After ten years, all we can hope for is a limited second pilot program, now called a starter pack to disguise it from the first pilot that failed. Planners are still walking on eggs to find an answer. Ten years of sugar and spice but nothing nice, heh heh heh

Why not just drive the busses down the Khulani Corridor, from Motherwell to Russell Road, that was to be the backbone of the new system, and what the money was given for in the first place, or admit they made a mistake and fall on their swords

The NMB BRT programme at R2.5bn was perhaps the biggest FIFA scandal of all. It makes the \$10m (US dollars) bribe paid to Jack Warner and Chuck Blazer, to get the World Cup votes, look like small change

Now that the world knows FIFA better, after its scandals have come out in the open, it begs the question, were the buzzwords like BRT, IPTS, world class, diaspora, legacy, catalytic, etc, genuine or just spook names for mega projects to spread the Soccer World Cup riches around a little. Other questions remain, tell us what you know Danny. Why do people think you ducking ?



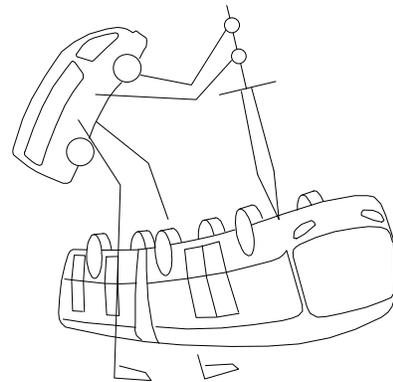
Everybody had to believe the SWC was bringing untold wealth to the country from which all will benefit (not sure how) and anyone who stood in the way of the SWC projects was unpatriotic (12). Planners happily spent the billions raking off their percentages, lots of it on inflated specifications (31). New stadiums yes, but why a

road system, with no logical tie to the game of football, and when ten years later it is lying barren, still not clear how it would be of any benefit at all. Yet it became a cash cow and a political apple for personal agendas. Even the DA after coming into power can't let go of it

But it is today clear this massive IPTS project had a hidden agenda to undermine the taxi industry, because of its image of being unsafe. See internet www.septua.co.za for how it was done. Trial by media, yet the taxi industry is the most successful self-made BEE ever. It transports over 70% of daily commuters and is never given recognition for that. They planned to reduce taxi passengers per day from 325,000 to 120,000 by 2020 (17). This is one group of people who DID NOT share in the SWC riches. Instead it has become a sacrificial lamb for the benefit of others

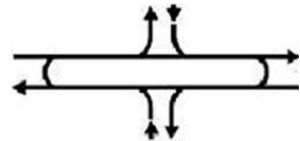
The best way forward for Nelson Mandela Bay is to abandon the IPTS and upgrade the existing system incl Algoa Bus. Facilities for taxis, which are non-existent, should be built, like rest rooms at ranks and formal stops to pick up passengers

Leave IPTS for (much) later when it can be proved



Go cashless with prepaid swipe cards and electronic monitoring in taxis, that will allow formalization and bring taxis into the subsidy envelope. Get some control over reckless behaviour, which will improve the taxi bad boy image. This IPTS intention should be applied to taxis right now. See where Uber technology is going

Free up main roads to reduce congestion by reducing red lights etc, which will be to the benefit of all road users, bus riders, taxi riders and everyone else in the city. Planners neglected this side of traffic in our city for 10 years while running after the IPTS golden goose. See more at www.septua.co.za



In the interests of lifting the veil on darkness this was researched and written by

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